



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: ASCENSION SUNDAY
SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020 AT 10:30 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:
162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4
office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 • www.theredeemer.ca



We invite you to join us and one another in worship. Since we cannot physically gather together in the space we all love so much, we gather together in different spaces, different homes, perhaps even different provinces: But we gather together still connected, and still in hope. Throughout this service you may follow along and pray and sing aloud, in the same ways you usually would. We hope this time together uplifts you and reminds us all that we can and will always come together in prayer.

Prelude: Variations on the Hymn: Mein Junges Leben hat ein End
(My young life is at an end) – Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

Dan Norman

Welcome

Steven Mackison

✠ The Easter Greeting

Officiant: Susan Haig

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Priest: May his grace and peace be with you.

People: **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Song of Praise: #370 (Gather) “He Came Down”

Mike & Jill Daley



1. He came down that we may have love; He came down that we may
2. He came down that we may have peace; He came down that we may
3. He came down that we may have joy; He came down that we may



have love; He came down that we may have love, Hal-le - lu - jah for ev - er more.
have peace; He came down that we may have peace, Hal-le - lu - jah for ev - er more.
have joy; He came down that we may have joy, Hal-le - lu - jah for ev - er more.

Text: Cameroon traditional. Music: Cameroon traditional; transcribed and arr. By John L. Bell, b.1949, © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

The Collect of the Day

Priest: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of his peace, and bring the whole of creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

First Reading

Dennis Duffy

Reader: A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Acts 1.1-11

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 47 – *George Black*

Michael Broder

Refrain:

God has gone up with a shout.

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy.

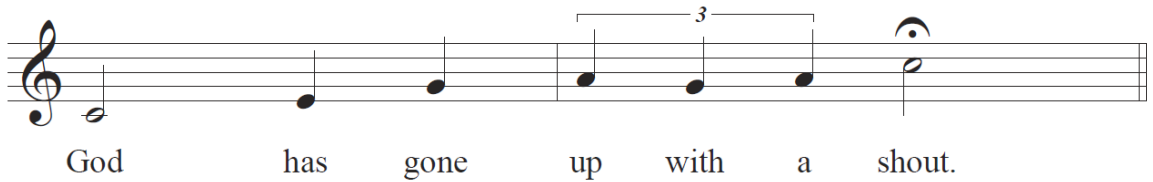
For the Most High is to be feared; the Ruler of all the earth. **Refrain**

Who subdues the people under us, and the nations under our feet.

Who chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob beloved of God. **Refrain**

God has gone up with a shout, the Most High with the sound of the ram's-horn.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our Sovereign sing praises. **Refrain**



For God rules over all the earth; sing praises with all your skill.

God reigns over the nations; God sits upon the highest throne. **Refrain**

The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, to the One who is highly exalted. **Refrain**

Second Reading

Chris Jones

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Ephesians 1.15-23

All: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed

Sequence Song: The Road Home – *Stephen Paulus*

Virtual Choir

Tell me where is the road I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost, so long ago?

All these years I have wandered,
Oh when will I know
There's a way, there's a road that will lead me home?

After wind, after rain, when the dark is done,
As I wake from a dream in the gold of day,
Through the air there's a calling from far away,
There's a voice I can hear that will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me, come away is the call,
With the love in your heart as the only song;
There is no such beauty as where you belong,
Rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

- Michael Dennis Browne

The Gospel

Steven Mackison

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Then Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 24.44-53

All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

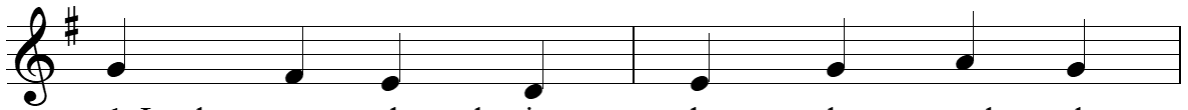
Homily

Roshni Jayawardena

We pause for music and meditation.

Hymn: #84 (Common Praise) "Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour"

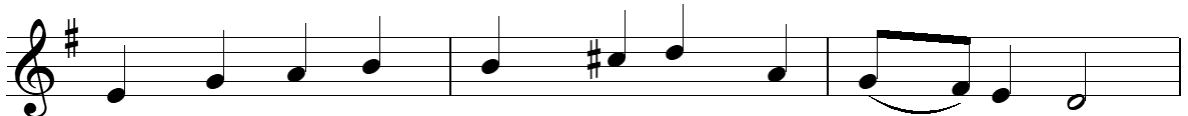
Music Team



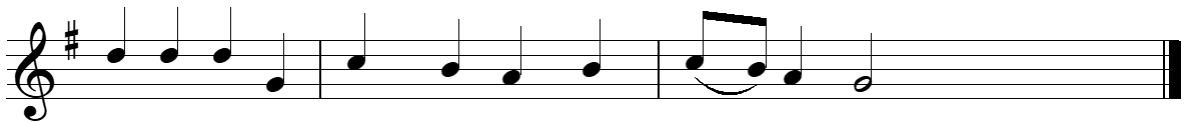
1. Lord, en - throned in heaven - ly splen - dour,
 2. Here our hum - blest hom - age pay we;
 3. Though the low - liest form doth veil thee
 4. Pas - chal Lamb, thine of - fering, fin - ished
 5. Life - im - par - ting heaven - ly Man - na,



first be - got - ten from the dead, thou a - lone, our
 here in lov - ing rev - erence bow; here for faith's dis -
 as of old in Beth - le - hem, here as there thine
 once for all when thou wast slain, in its full - ness
 strick - en Rock with stream - ing side, heaven and earth with



strong de - fen - der, lift - est up thy peo - ple's head.
 - cern - ment pray we, lest we fail to know thee now.
 an - gels hail thee, branch and flower of Jes - se's stem.
 un - di - min - ished shall for ev - er - more re - main,
 loud ho - san - na wor - ship thee, the Lamb who died,



Al - le - lu - ia, Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!
 Al - le - lu - ia, thou art here, we ask not how.
 Al - le - lu - ia, we in wor - ship join with them.
 al - le - lu - ia, cleans - ing souls from ev - ery stain.
 al - le - lu - ia, risen, as - cen - ded, glo - ri - fied!

The Prayers of the People

Kate Werneburg

Leader: When he ascended to the right hand of God, Jesus took his place, interceding eternally for us. Therefore with courage and confidence that God will both hear and answer, we come together in prayer.

Please add your prayers for the church over in the chat box

Gracious One, clothe us with your Holy Spirit and with power from on high, that we may proclaim God's kingdom here on earth, so that all may believe.

Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: God has given us the gift of government to protect the vulnerable and to provide the peace and freedom to serve God and one another without fear. God has created this world and all that is in it, that we may know abundance.

Please add your prayers for the world over in the chat box

Sovereign One, bless all our leaders, that they may serve with integrity in the sacred trust of the offices in which they have been placed. Inspire the desires of all your children, that we may renew our relationship with creation according to your will. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember God's compassion for all who cry out in need, the sick and suffering, the lost and forsaken, the bereft and the downtrodden.

Please add your prayers for those in need over in the chat box

Merciful One, give wisdom to all who practice the healing arts, that they may be instruments of your grace. Send relief to all the afflicted, that they may know your relentless care. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Eternal God, we remember those whose earthly life has come to an end, praying that they may begin again with you in life everlasting.

Please add your prayers for those who have died over in the chat box

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord. And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Bless and comfort their loved ones and give us faith in your promise of eternal life. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Gracious God, you know our needs before we ask. We are grateful that you have heard us and are confident that you will answer, according to your will.

Please add your prayers of thanksgiving over in the chat box

Holy God, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end.

All: Amen.

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

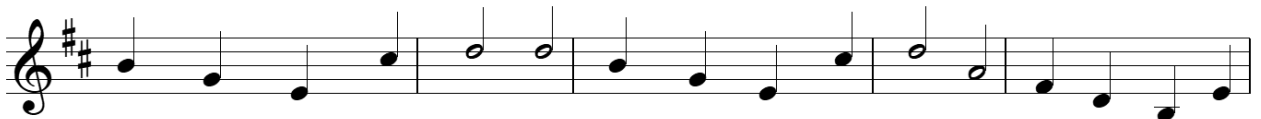
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Hymn: #357 (Common Praise) "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing"

All sing



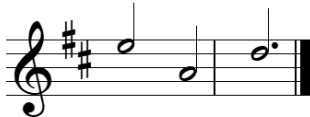
1. Let all the world in ev - ery cor - ner sing: my God and King! The
2. Let all the world in ev - ery cor - ner sing: my God and King! The



heavens are not too high, his praise may thith - er fly; the earth is not too
church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out; but a - bove all, the



low, his prais - es there may grow. Let all the world in ev - ery cor - ner sing: my
heart must bear the long - est part. Let all the world in ev - ery cor - ner sing: my



Text: George Herbert (1593-1633). Music: Basil Harwood (1859-1949). Music published by permission of the executors of the late Dr. Basil Harwood.

God and King!
God and King!

The Dismissal

Priest: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Ministry Updates

Steven Mackison

Our thanks go out to all who contribute financially to the Redeemer community.

Our ability to continue to offer outreach support through the Common Table and maintain our rich and varied worship and program life is possible thanks to the generous donations of parishioners and friends of the community. If you would like to share in this on-going work, please click on the “Online Donation” link below, where you will be redirected to the gifts section of our Website. Thank you for your generosity.

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